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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

JANICE D. DENSON et al.

Application No. 09/765,039

Filed: January 19, 2001

Docket No. 12913.101

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC  
BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED  
TRANSACTIONS

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)

Applicants hereby petition the United States Patent and Trademark Office to file the above-identified application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a) with a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.63 signed by less than all of the named inventors. More particularly,

1. There are seven named inventors of the present application. Each is listed below in this paragraph, together with his or her last known address:

Janice D. Denson, 1045 Mason Street, Unit 202, San Francisco, CA 94108;

Bernard J. Lidestri, 165 Henry Street, Manchester, MA 06040;

Gregory D. Manoni, 300 Cold Spring Road, Apt. C409, Rocky Hill, CT 06067;

Jerry Ahart, 220 A Shamrock Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903;

Michael J. Caughey, 6419 Hackney Circle, Richmond, VA 23234;

Tamara O. Petroff, 74 Wood Pond Road, Glastonbury, CT 06033;

Brandon Curiel, 427 Boston Street, Guilford, CT 06437.

2. A Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application was mailed by the PTO on March 2, 2001, stating that a filing date was granted, and requiring an oath or declaration,

07/03/2001 TL0011 00000003 500709 09765039

01 FC:122 130.00 CH

and a substitute specification (because of improper margins in the original). (The substitute specification is attached to and filed concurrent with this Petition.)

3. Based on the verified statement of pertinent facts submitted by the attached Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a) of Dorene Robotti, Applicants submit that six of the seven named joint inventors refuse to sign the Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.63. One of the named joint inventors, Brandon Curiel, has signed the Declaration, and the original of the same is attached with this Petition.

4. Based on the attached Declaration under 37 C.F.F. § 1.63 being signed by one of the named inventors and the remaining inventors refusing to sign, as established by the verified statement of pertinent facts submitted by the attached Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a) of Dorene Robotti, Applicants hereby respectfully petition for ,and request, filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a).

5. Applicants have stated in ¶ 2 of this Petition the last known address of each of the non-signing inventors, which are all of the inventors with the exception of Brandon Curiel.

6. Please charge the filing fee of \$130.00, and any additional fees, to Deposit Account 50-0709. A duplicate of this sheet is submitted for this purpose. The Response to the Notice to File Missing Parts and Request for Extension of Time are attached.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Laurence E. Stein, Esq.  
Reg. No. 35,371  
PATTON BOGGS LLP  
2550 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20037  
(202) 457-6491

Dated: July 2, 2001



Docket No. 12913.101

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC  
BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED  
TRANSACTIONS

**DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)**

I, DORENE E. ROBOTTI, declare that I am General Counsel of iSolve Incorporated, a Delaware corporation with a business address at 281 Tresser Boulevard, Two Stamford Plaza, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Stamford, CT 06901, (hereinafter "iSolve") and that I am authorized to make this declaration on behalf of iSolve and, on firsthand knowledge unless otherwise stated or made clear from the context, I further declare that:

1. On January 19, 2001, a nonprovisional application entitled Method and Apparatus for Electronic Business Postings and Negotiated Transactions, was filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("PTO"), and has since been assigned Serial No.09/765,039 (hereinafter "the present application"). The present application was filed without an oath or declaration.

2. The present application claims priority from, and is based on U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127.

3. There are seven named inventors of the present application, and these are the named inventors of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127. Each is listed below in this paragraph, together with his or her last known address:

Janice D. Denson, 1045 Mason Street, Unit 202, San Francisco, CA 94108;

Bernard J. Lidestri, 165 Henry Street, Manchester, MA 06040;

Gregory D. Manoni, 300 Cold Spring Road, Apt. C409, Rocky Hill, CT 06067;

Jerry Ahart, 220 A Shamrock Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903;

Michael J. Caughey, 6419 Hackney Circle, Richmond, VA 23234;

Tamara O. Petroff, 74 Wood Pond Road, Glastonbury, CT 06033;

Brandon Curiel, 427 Boston Street, Guilford, CT 06437.

4. iSolve is the assignee of the present application by the terms of the assignment of executed by each of the seven named inventors of the present application. The assignment was filed in the PTO for recordation on March 27, 2000 by Applicants' previous counsel. A true copy of the assignment, as filed, is attached as Exhibit A.

5. A Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application was mailed by the PTO on March 2, 2001, stating that a filing date was granted, and requiring an oath or declaration, and a substitute specification (because of improper margins in the original). (The substitute specification is attached to and filed concurrent with this Declaration.)

6. To expedite a proper and timely response to the Notice to File Missing Parts, iSolve sent by U.S. Postal Service certified mail, on March 30, 2001, to each of the seven named inventors at their last known addresses, a true copy of the original application, as filed, and a Declaration, with a cover letter requesting execution and return of the Declaration for filing in the USPTO. A true copy of each of the cover letters, as mailed, with a photostatic copy of the certified mail proof-of-mailing, is attached as Exhibit B.

7. iSolve received proof-of-receipt of the certified mailing identified in ¶ 6 from all of the named inventors except for the following two: Jerry Ahart and Tamara Petroff. A copy of each proof-of-receipt (five) and the two "Return to Sender" notices is attached as Exhibit C.

8. With respect to the two named inventors identified in ¶ 7 for which it received no proof-of-receipt, iSolve received an e-mail from Jerry Ahart on April 13, 2001, and an e-mail from Tamara Petroff on April 14, 2001, each providing iSolve a new mailing address for the respective inventor. A hard copy of these e-mails is attached as Exhibit D. In response, iSolve mailed a true copy of the present application and a Declaration to Mr. Ahart and Ms. Petroff. See Exhibit E.

9. On April 13, 2001, iSolve was CC'd on an e-mail, see Exhibit F, from Bernie Lidestri, one of the seven named inventors of the present application. The Exhibit F e-mail from Mr. Lidestri shows addresses of persons, or e-mail monikers thereof, which appear to include those of each of the remaining six named inventors. As shown in Exhibit F stated:

"DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING YET.

I need to get a copy to our legal counsel first. I'll get back to you once I hear from legal."

10. On April 24, 2001, iSolve received a voice mail from Bernie Lidestri explaining that the legal department was still looking over the materials and he would follow up with them shortly. That was the last communication iSolve received from Mr. Lidestri.

11. iSolve received an executed, but marked-up, Declaration from Brandon Curiel in response to the mailing on March 30, 2001 identified in ¶ 6. The mark-up constitutes a change of address and nothing more. See Exhibit G.

12. On June 5, 2001, having received no further communication from any of the named inventors, iSolve sent by U.S. Postal certified mail, with a cover letter, a true copy of the present

application, as filed, and a Declaration for review and signature to each of the seven named inventors. A copy of each of the cover letters and its proof-of-mailing is attached as Exhibit H.

13. iSolve received a proof-of-receipt of the certified mailing identified in ¶ 12 from all of the named inventors except for the following: Michael J. Caughey and Tamara O. Petroff. Ms. Petroff's letter was returned as undeliverable. A copy of each proof-of-receipt that we have received is attached as Exhibit I.

14. Mr. Curiel returned the Declaration to iSolve's counsel in an executed state. A true copy of this executed Declaration is attached as Exhibit J, with the original attached to Applicants Response to the Notice to File Missing Parts filed concurrently with this Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.41(a).

15. None of the seven named inventors other than Mr. Curiel responded to the June 5, 2001 certified mailings identified in ¶ 12 above. Other than receiving the executed Declarations from Mr. Curiel, as identified in ¶¶ 11 and 14 above, iSolve has received no communication from the named inventors, directly or indirectly, since the April 24, 2001 voice mail identified in ¶ 10 above.

16. I and iSolve reasonably believe, and respectfully conclude, based on the facts above that the attached Exhibit F documented communication, received more than two months ago (April 13, 2001) from one of the named inventors, instructing all of the remaining named inventors to "NOT" sign the Declaration, followed by more than two months of the non-signing inventor's clear, continuing, silence, *notwithstanding* the *second* transmittal from iSolve (June 5, 2001), constitutes a *refusal*, by each, to sign within the meaning of 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a).

17. The undersigned further declares that all statements made herein of her own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and, further, that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made

are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this Declaration or the Registration referred to herein.

  
DORENE E. ROBOTTI  
General Counsel  
iSolve, Incorporated

Date: June 29, 2001

Attorney Docket No. 109593.114

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Janice D. Denson, et al.

Serial No.: 60/176,127

Examiner: Not Assigned

Filed: 01/14/00

Group Art Unit:

Title: MANAGING COMPUTER-BASED COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Assignments, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C. 20231 on the date set forth below.

March 27, 2000

Date

Rochelle Harper

Rochelle Harper

**Box Assignments**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER OF ASSIGNMENT**

Sir:

Enclosed herewith for filing in the above-referenced provisional patent application are the following documents:

1. Assignment.
2. Form PTO-1595 (Recordation Form Cover Sheet).
3. Return postcard.

The Commissioner is authorized to debit any underpayment or credit any overpayment in connection with this matter to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

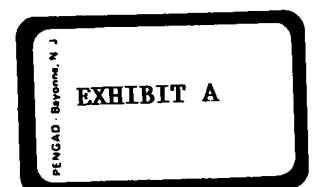
Respectfully submitted,

Jason A. Reyes

Jason A. Reyes  
Registration No. 41,513  
Attorney for Applicants

Dated: March 27, 2000

Hale and Dorr LLP  
60 State Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109  
(617) 526-6010 (Telephone)  
(617) 526-5000 (Facsimile)





Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/SB/02A (11-00)

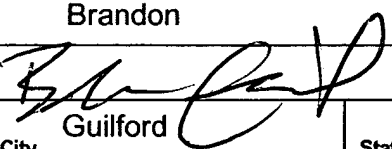
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

## DECLARATION

**ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)**  
Supplemental Sheet  
Page 3 of 3

<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname	
Michael James		Caughey	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence: City	Richmond	State	VA
Country	US	Citizenship	US
Mailing Address 6419 Hackney Circle			
Mailing Address			
City	Richmond	State	VA
ZIP	23234	Country	US
<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname	
Tamara Olga		Petroff	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence: City	Glastonbury	State	CT
Country	US	Citizenship	US
Mailing Address 74 Wood Pond Road			
Mailing Address			
City	Glastonbury	State	CT
ZIP	06033	Country	US
<b>Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname	
Brandon		Curiel	
Inventor's Signature 		Date 6/11/01	
Residence: City	Guilford	State	CT
Country	US	Citizenship	US
Mailing Address 427 Boston Street			
Mailing Address			
City	Guilford	State	CT
ZIP	06437	Country	US

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR  
DESIGN  
PATENT APPLICATION  
(37 CFR 1.63)**

☐ Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing      OR      ☒ Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number	12913.101
First Named Inventor	Denson, Janice D.
<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
Application Number	09 / 765,039
Filing Date	January 19, 2001
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

**As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:**

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**Method and Apparatus for Electronic Business Postings and  
Negotiated Transactions**

*(Title of the Invention)*

the specification of which

☒ is attached hereto

OR

☐ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)  as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number  and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)  (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

[Page 1 of 2]

OMB No. 0651-0011 (exp. 4/94)

PATENTS ONLY

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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

Bernard J. Lidestri  
Gregory D. Manoni  
Jerry Ahart  
Michael J. Caughey  
Tamara O. Petroff  
Brandon Curiel

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

Name: iSolve Incorporated

Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: 281 Tresser Boulevard,  
Two Stamford Plaza, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor

City: Stamford State: CT ZIP: 06901

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

3. Nature of conveyance:

☒ Assignment ☐ Merger  
☐ Security Agreement ☐ Change of Name  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Execution Date: March 1, 2000

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is : \_\_\_\_\_

A. Patent Application No.(s)  
60/176,127

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed.

Name: Jason A. Reyes

Internal Address: Hale And Dorr LLP

Street Address: 60 State Street

City: Boston State: MA ZIP: 02109-1803

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: ☒ 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$40.00

☐ Enclosed ☒ Charge fees to Deposit Account

☒ Charge any additional fees associated with this paper or during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account.

8. Deposit account number:

08-0219

(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Jason A. Reyes

Name of Person Signing

Jason A. Reyes

Signature

Registration No. 41,513

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document:

March 27, 2000

Date

9

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:  
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments  
Washington, D.C. 20231

## ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, We, JANICE D. DENSON, residing in Stamford, Connecticut, USA; BERNARD J. LIDESTRI, residing in Manchester, Connecticut, USA; GREGORY D. MANONI, residing in Rocky Hill, Connecticut, USA; JERRY AHART, residing in Charlottesville, VA, USA; MICHAEL J. CAUGHEY, residing in Richmond, Virginia, USA; TAMARA O. PETROFF, residing in Vernon, Connecticut, USA; and BRANDON CURIEL, residing in Hamden, Connecticut, USA hereinafter referred to as the assignors, are the inventors of certain inventions for which we have made a provisional patent application identified as U.S. Serial No. 60/176,127, filed on January 14, 2000 entitled "MANAGING COMPUTER-BASED COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS"; and

WHEREAS, ISOLVE INCORPORATED, hereinafter referred to as the assignee, of 281 Tresser Boulevard, Two Stamford Plaza, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Stamford, CT 06901, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to the said inventions or improvements and in and to the said application, and in, to and under any and all Letters Patent which may be granted as a result thereof in any and all countries:

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we the undersigned parties, by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto ISOLVE INCORPORATED, its successors and assigns the full, exclusive and worldwide right, title and interest to the said inventions including the United States of America, and the entire right, title and interest in said application, and in, to and under any and all Letters Patent which may be granted on said inventions, or any parts thereof, or on any continuation, division, reissue, conversion, or extension thereof in the United States of America, in the territorial possessions of the United States of America and in any country foreign to the United States of America including all rights of priority under the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property, the same to be held and enjoyed by ISOLVE INCORPORATED, its successors, and assigns as fully and entirely as the same would have been held by us, had this assignment not been made.

And we hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States of America and respective Patent Office officials in any country foreign to the United States of America to issue said Letters Patent to said ISOLVE INCORPORATED as the assignee of our entire right, title and interest in, to and under the same, and we hereby further authorize ISOLVE INCORPORATED to apply for Letters Patent in our name or in its own name, as it in its sole discretion sees fit, utilizing any benefits which may exist under any International Agreement, in any country foreign to the United States of America.

And we, do hereby agree for ourselves and for our heirs, executors and administrators to execute any lawful document and to testify as to any material fact or thing which ISOLVE INCORPORATED, its successors and assigns may deem necessary in order to secure unto itself, its successors and assigns the full right, title and interest in and to and the full enjoyment of said inventions or any part thereof and any Letters Patent, the same to be done without any further consideration.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JANICE D. DENSON

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

On this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000, before me personally came the above-named JANICE D. DENSON to me personally known and known to me to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was of that person's own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public:  
My commission expires:

*Signature  
page sent  
3/28 by  
Terri Martin*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

Bernard J. Lidestri  
BERNARD J. LIDESTRI

DATE: 3/1/2000

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2000, before me personally came the above-named BERNARD J. LIDESTRI to me personally known and known to me to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was of that person's own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.

Jaegerline D. Kregewski  
Notary Public:  
My commission expires: 6/30/2001

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.


Gregory D. Manoni  
GREGORY D. MANONI

DATE: 3/1/2000

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2000, before me personally came the above-named GREGORY D. MANONI to me personally known and known to me to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was of that person's own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.


Jacqueline D. Krawinski  
Notary Public:  
My commission expires: 6/30/2001

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JERRY AHART


DATE: March 1 2000

On this 1 day of March, 2000, before me personally came the above-named JERRY AHART to me personally known and known to me to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was of that person's own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public:  
My commission expires: 6/30/2001

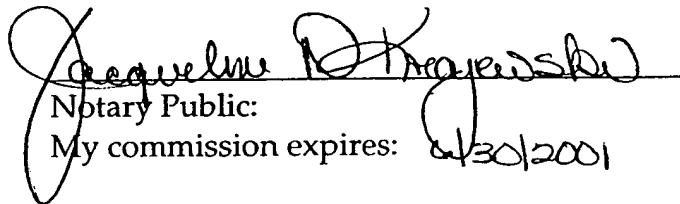


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

  
MICHAEL J. CAUGHEY

DATE: March 1, 2000

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2000, before me personally came the above-named MICHAEL J. CAUGHEY to me personally known and known to me to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was of that person's own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.

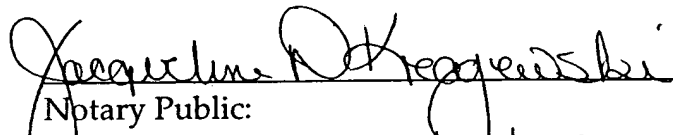
  
Notary Public:  
My commission expires: 6/30/2001

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

  
TAMARA O. PETROFF

DATE: 3/1/2000

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2000, before me personally came the above-named TAMARA O. PETROFF to me personally known and known to me to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was of that person's own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.

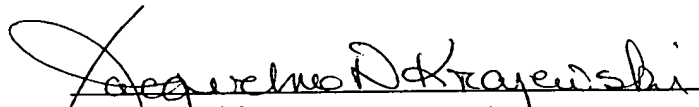
  
Notary Public:  
My commission expires: 6/20/00

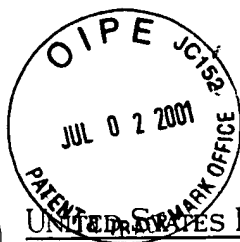
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

  
BRANDON CURIEL

DATE: 3/1/2000

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2000, before me personally came the above-named BRANDON CURIEL to me personally known and known to me to be the same individual who executed the foregoing assignment, and who acknowledged to me that execution of the same was of that person's own free will for the use and purposes therein set forth.

  
Notary Public:  
My commission expires: 6/30/2001



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Page 1 of 2  
COMPUTER UPDATED  
BY *aea* DATE *3/7/01*

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/765,039	01/19/2001	Denson	999999.120

CONFIRMATION NO. 6916

FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000005819273\*

PATTON BOGGS LLP  
2550 M STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20037

Date Mailed: 03/02/2001

## NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

### *Filing Date Granted*

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The oath or declaration is missing.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$65 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 65.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- A substitute specification in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52 because:
  - Papers contain improper margins. *Each sheet must have a left margin of at least 2.5 cm (1") and top, bottom and right margins of at least 2.0 cm (3/4")*

*A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.*

*BLS*



## METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS

### DESCRIPTION

#### *Field of the Invention*

This invention relates generally to the field of electronic business posting and negotiated transaction and, more particularly, to a method and apparatus for offering business products and inventory for sale, receiving offers and counter-offers to buy, and conducting transactions for the same.

#### *Description of the Related Art*

Ongoing businesses frequently find themselves possessing excess inventory, excess capacity, and idle assets which, if they could be converted into liquid value in an efficient manner, could be properly utilized for the benefit of the business. In addition, when failing businesses begin to wind down, or suddenly collapse, interested parties such as creditors frequently find themselves in possession of hard inventory and specialized business equipment having no immediate value to them, but which could certainly be applied to outstanding debts, if that inventory and idle equipment could be converted to cash. The present inventors have identified estimates of the current worldwide market of such excess assets and inventory, termed "the Surplus Marketplace", of about one trillion dollars. There is not any known standardized, large scale integrated system for general marketing within the Surplus Marketplace. Instead, various niche trades, businesses and operations, including traditional auction companies, liquidators and close-out dealers, have developed to fill the needs of the market. Some of these have migrated, in parts anyway, to the Internet, as "born-on-web" e-tailers, auctions and so called "electronic marketplaces". Even further, a number of barter companies have appeared.

The presently existing market means and business methods for marketing, offering and selling excess and surplus inventory, however, have a number of shortcomings, both from the sellers' and the buyers' perspective. From the buyers' perspective, the shortcomings include lack of information about the seller, including the names of contacts, incomplete description of the goods, incomplete description of the terms and conditions of sale, including payment terms and shipping arrangements. Other shortcomings from the buyers' perspective include: limited geographical range for which the buyer is made aware of sellers' offerings, insufficient means to communicate counter-offers back to the seller, and lack of a practical independent verification of the seller, and lack . From the sellers' perspective the shortcomings include: inability to economically screen buyers, insufficient provisions for negotiating counter-offers with the buyers, insufficient geographical reach of the sellers' offerings, and lack of trusted entities for handling the actual transactions.

## **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

An object of the present invention is to solve the above-identified shortcomings with the existing means and business methods for marketing, offering, and selling excess inventory, and surplus goods and equipment and other idle assets.

A general method according to the present invention establishes relational database of offer date records representing registered users, inventory listings by registered users, offers or purchase orders from registered buyers, and the content and activity of business accounts for the users. The method establishes the relational database by receiving a plurality of data records, each having a descriptor data field identifying a commodity and an identify of an offeror. The database then stores the plurality of offer data records . A status flag for each of the plurality of offer data records, indicating whether the inventory listing is for sale, sold, withdrawn, or pending authorization is initializing to a first state. Next the method receives at the

database an inquiry from a buyer computer remote from the database, the inquiry having a search field corresponding to at least a portion of the descriptor data field. The database then selects one or more of the offer data records from said database based on the inquiry search field. Next, the database transmits the selected one or more offer data records, and the status flag associated with the each of the selected one or more data records, to the buyer computer. The database then receives a purchase order data record from the buyer computer. The purchase order data record identifies a buyer and a particular offer data record from the one or more selected offer data records, and has a purchase offer field identifying one or more terms of an offer for purchase of the commodity identified by the descriptor field of the particular offer data record. The database then stores the purchase order data record and transmits a purchase order received data to the offeror identified by the descriptor field of the particular offer data record. The purchase order received data identifies the buyer, identifies an offer of sale corresponding to the particular offer data record, and identifies the one or terms of an offer for purchase. Next, the database receives a seller response data from the offeror, the seller response data having an acceptance field reflecting acceptance of, rejection of, or a counter-offer to the one or more terms of an offer for purchase. The database stores the seller response data and transmits to the buyer a seller response received data, the seller response received data identifying contents of the acceptance field of the seller response data. The database then receives a committed purchase order data from the buyer and changes to a second state the status flag data associated with the particular offer data record.

### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

The foregoing and other objects, aspects, and advantages will be better understood from the following description of preferred embodiments of the invention with reference to the drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a system architecture diagram of a an example system according to the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a general system functional block diagram and flow chart for operation of a method according to the invention;

Fig. 3 is an example screen arrangement for showing user activity of the Fig. 1 system and Fig. 2 method

Fig. 4 is an example screen arrangement for showing an account search summary at a step of a method in accordance with Fig. 2;

Fig. 5 is an example screen arrangement for displaying an account search summary according to Fig. 4, for a search for a first status of offered inventory, orders and accounts;

Fig. 6 is an example screen arrangement for displaying account details of an account indicated by a search summary in accordance with Fig. 4;

Fig. 7 is an example screen arrangement for displaying current offers for purchase on a selected inventory posting shown by the account details according to Fig. 6;

Fig. 8 is an example screen arrangement for displaying a record of offers and counter-offers between users for a selected inventory posting shown by the account details according to Fig. 6; and

Fig. 9 is an example of a display of a comment field associated with a record of offers and counter-offers according to Fig. 8.



## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Provisional Application Serial NO. 60/176,127, filed January 14, 2000, on which the present applicant bases priority, is hereby incorporated by reference.

Fig. 1 herein shows an example system diagram for implementing a method according to this invention. The Fig. 1 system includes a site 1 having a front tier 2, a middle tier 4, and a back tier/storage system 6. The front tier 2 comprises the web server hardware and software which provides end-users, which will be described below, with access to the site 1. The middle tier 4 comprises the application server and hardware and software which provides the business logic for carrying out the operations described below. The back tier/storage system 6 comprises the database server and software. The back tier/storage system 6 provides persistent storage of records of site activity, including records received from users and audit logs, as described below.

An example hardware and operating system for the front tier 2 consists of two Sun E250s web servers (not shown), or equivalents, each running Solaris 2.6, and each configured with a single 400 MHz CPU (not shown) with 512 MB of RAM. Example software for carrying out the server operations is Netscape Enterprise Server, or equivalent. The use of two web servers is a design choice based on a balancing of reliability and cost, using criteria well known to one of ordinary skill in the art. A single web server could be used, but with a concomitant reduction in reliability. If two web servers are used then a load balancing subsystem (not shown) should be included, as known to one of ordinary skill. An example of load balancing subsystem comprises a Cisco Local Director (not shown), which provides load balancing and automatic failover between the two web servers.

An example hardware and operating system for the middle tier 4 consists of two Sun E450s servers (not shown), or equivalents, each running Solaris 2.6, and each configured with a single 400 MHz CPU (not shown) with 1GB of RAM. Example software for carrying out the server operations of the

middle tier 4 is BEA WebLogic, preferably with clustering. The clustering feature with the BEA WebLogic is not a necessity but better utilizes the fault tolerance obtained with two servers. The use of two servers in the middle tier 4 is a design choice based on a balancing of reliability and cost, using criteria well known to one of ordinary skill in the art. A single web server could be used, but with a concomitant reduction in reliability.

An example hardware and operating system for the back tier section (not shown) of the back tier/storage system 8 consists of a primary server (not shown) and a secondary server (not shown). An example primary server is a Sun® E3500, with four 400 MHz CPUs, and 1 GB of RAM. An example secondary server is a Sun® E450, with four 400 MHz CPUs and 1 GB of RAM. Example software for carrying out the back tier operations, which are described below, performed by the back tier/storage system 8 is Oracle® 8i Enterprise Edition, Veritas® Database Edition for Oracle with Veritas® Cluster Server.

An example hardware and operating system for the storage section (not shown) of the back tier/storage system 8 consists of a Clariion® 5310 full-fibre channel RAID (Redundant Array of Independent Disks), storage array with six 9 GB drives, for a total storage capacity of 54 GB. Example storage management software is the Clariion® Navisphere™ manager.

The above-described example hardware and software for each of the front tier 2, the middle tier 4 and the back tier/storage system 6 is for purposes of example only. Other alternative commercially available hardware and software could be readily identified and selected by one of ordinary skill in the art.

Referring to Fig. 1, the front tier 2 connects by a Vlan 30 or equivalent data connection (not numbered), to a first router 10 which connects to a first firewall 12. The first firewall 12 provides primary security and address translation and connects to the Internet 14. In a full redundancy and failover arrangement, the front tier 2 also connects by another Vlan 30 or equivalent data connection (not numbered), to a second router 16 which connects to a second firewall 18. The second firewall 18 connects to the Internet 14.

Example implementation of the first and second firewall 12 and 18 is a Pix™ 520 unit. Example hardware for the first and second routers 10 and 16 is a Catalyst 5505 with Gigabit Ethernet trunking and Rout Switch Failure Card (not shown).

Referring to Fig. 1, redundancy and load balancing between the first and second firewalls 12 and 18, and associated first and second routers 10 and 16, is provided by a first and second load balancing unit, labeled 20 and 22, respectively. Example commercially available load balancing units 20 and 22 include the Local Director™ unit.

As shown in Fig. 1, a plurality of users 24 connect to the Internet 14, each user having a standard personal computer (not shown), such as, for example, a Dell® Optiplex GX1, having a 300 MHz CPU, running under a Windows NT or Windows 2000 operating system, and having a web browser such as Netscape® Communicator or Windows Internet Explorer.

Referring to Fig. 2 an example operation of the posting and business transaction method of the invention will be described.

First, at block 200 a user 24 of Fig. 1, using a standard personal computer, as identified above, visits the system web site hosted by the site 1, using a standard web browser, such as Netscape Communicator. The user enters an employee ID and a password (not shown). Next, at step 202 the site 1 queries the database of the back tier 8 which, for this example, is an Oracle Enterprise, and determines if the login is valid. ID and password based login procedures are known in the art and, therefore, a description is not necessary for an understanding of this invention. If step 202 determines that the login is not valid the system returns the user to the home page of the web site. If step 202 determines that the login is valid the process goes to step 204 to identify the user level, based on the entered employee ID and password. The number of user levels is a design choice. For this example, three user levels are used: first level (which is the lowest order for access privileges), designating a user representative; second level, for user supervisors; and third level, which is for user directors (having the highest access privileges). To persons skilled in the general field of remote access

databases, the schemes for limiting access to system data, enablement of editing capabilities for selected data, and access to system operations based on user level is a well known design feature and, accordingly, the specific method for carrying out such operations do not need description.

As shown at Fig. 2, if step 206 identifies the user as being level three, i.e. a user director, the process goes step 208 which defines additional functions to which that user has access. Since level three is the highest level, the process automatically goes to step 210 and provides the user with the functions accessible to the next higher user privilege, level two, and is then presented with a search page at step 212. If the answer at step 204 is "no" the process goes to step 214 to identify if the user has level two privileges. If the answer is "yes" the process goes to step 210, provides the user with privileges accorded level two, and presents the user the search page at step 212. As seen from Fig. 1, if the user has level one access privileges then he or she would pass, by a consecutive "no" at step 206 and 212, to the search page at step 212.

Referring to Fig. 3, an example search page 300 presented to the user at step 212 is shown. Field 302 is a search field and, at the left side of the screen is a plurality of click fields 304 for initiating labeled operations. One of the click fields within 304 is "Current Activity" 304a. The operation initiated by 304a queries certain activity logs, within the database of the back tier 8 of site 1, unlike the full search effected by clicking the "inventory search" button 302a. In response to the user clicking 304a the screen 300 displays "Inventory I've Posted", at field 306, and "Offers I've Made", at field 308. The example screen 300, based on the current activity shown, reflects a user who acts as both a seller and a buyer. Under "Offer's I've Made" 308 the example shows three account records (not numbered). Each account record contains a Status field, which is described in more detail below. A value of "active", however, means that the seller has not accepted any offer for purchase of the product and, hence, the database within the back tier 8 has not updated the Status flag for that account record. A Status value of "countered" means that the seller posting the product has received a purchase order for the product,

likely containing terms not acceptable to the seller, and that the seller has, accordingly, transmitted a counter-offer to the buyer, through the site 1.

Referring to Fig. 4 an example screen shot 400 is depicted, showing what the user sees after initiating a search request through button 302a to the site 1. The search criteria are entered by the user into the appropriate fields 402. The user then clicks the "search" button 404 and the results, which are all accounts that meet the search criteria, are then obtained by the back tier 8 of site 1, transmitted to the user and displayed in field 406. Referring to Fig. 2, clicking the "search" button 304 moves the process to the search step 216. An example search is shown at Fig. 5, where the user entered into fields "buying status" and "selling status" fields, labeled 402a and 402b, respectively, the value "pending". In response, the back tier 8 of site 1 retrieved and transmitted all postings of goods, and offers for purchase of goods, that have a status flag of "pending". As described in further detail below, a status value of "pending" means that the posting of the goods, or the purchase order for goods, has been received by site 1 but not validated for transmittal to the other users. Stated differently, a Status value of Pending means that approval for transmittal is pending. The validation feature and the associated Status value are not mandatory for inclusion in the system of the this invention, but are preferred.

Referring to Fig. 2, after the search step at 216 the user can click on any of the retrieved accounts appearing in field 406 of Fig. 4, or on any of the accounts that appeared in the current activity fields 306 or 308 of Fig. 3. In response the process goes to the account detail page at step 218, and the site 1 rear tier 8 will retrieve the information shown at the Account Details screen 600 of Fig. 6. The details include, for example, the Audit Trail 602, Comment Trail 604, Inventory Posted 606, and Orders Placed 608. In addition, as shown at Fig. 7, the user can obtain particular information about a seller's posting such as current purchase orders 702, which are offers for purchase, received from buyers. As seen from Fig. 7, the described examples of this invention maintains anonymity of the buyers associated with each of the purchase orders 702.

Referring to Fig. 2, when the user at step 218 is presented with the account detail page of Fig. 6, the user can click and obtain a Talk Box screen from the site 1 having, as shown at field 802 of Fig. 8, the record of the user's dialog, meaning offers and counteroffers, with the other user. In addition, the user can click at field 804 to obtain the profile of the other user. Referring to Fig. 9, the Talk Box can, at the user's choice, include the record 902 of the both the user's and the other user's comments associated with the offers and counteroffers.

Referring to Fig. 2, the user at step 218 has the further option, by clicking on the labeled fields in the browser display, of proceeding to step 220 and obtaining an editable page of all inventory fields of the user's offer for sale of a product. The user may also proceed to step 222 and obtain an editable page of details of the user's purchase order or offer to purchase. Further, the user can proceed to step 224 and obtain an e-mail page (not shown) having a drop down list box of all contacts for the selected account. the page also contains a drop down combination box for the subject of the e-mail. If the user selects on a predefined e-mail subject, the selection will pre-fill the text area with the e-mail template text. The user is presented with the option of entering a new subject for the e-mail and new text. The user is also presented with a send button (not shown). Also, on the same page there is a history of e-mails sent. The table will have a re-send button, for example, at the right of each row. If the user clicks on a table row, the fields of the e-mail section will be populated with the date of the e-mail previously sent.

Referring to Fig. 2, when the user is presented with the Account Detail page of Fig. 6, the user has the Audit Trail Field 602. The user may, accordingly, proceed to step 226 and view the audit trail for the particular account.

It is to be understood that the present invention is described above in reference to specific embodiments, which are for purposes of example only, and that the invention is not limited to the specific arrangement, or configuration described hereinabove or shown in the drawings, but also comprises the various modifications readily apparent to one skilled in the art

upon reading this specification, as defined by the broadest scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for posting offerings for goods and services and for receiving and negotiating responses, comprising:

- receiving a plurality of offer data records at a database, from one or more seller computers remote from said database, each having a descriptor data field identifying a commodity and an identify of an offeror;

- storing said plurality of offer data records into said database;

- initializing to a first state a status flag data associated with each of said plurality of offer data records;

- receiving at said database an inquiry from a buyer computer remote from said database, said inquiry having a search field corresponding to at least a portion of said descriptor data field;

- selecting one or more of said offer data records from said database based on said search field;

- transmitting said selected one or more offer data records, and said status flag associated with the each of the selected one or more data records, to said buyer computer ;

- receiving at said database a purchase order data record from said buyer computer, said purchase order data record identifying a buyer and a particular offer data record from said one or more selected offer data records, and having a purchase offer field identifying one or more terms of an offer for purchase of the commodity identified by the descriptor field of said particular offer data record;

- storing said purchase order data record in said database;

- transmitting a purchase order received data to the offeror identified by the descriptor field of said particular offer data record, said purchase order received data identifying said buyer, identifying an offer of sale corresponding to said particular offer data record, and identifying said one or terms of an offer for purchase;

- receiving at said database a seller response data from said offeror, said seller response data having an acceptance field reflecting acceptance of,



rejection of, or a counter-offer to said one or more terms of an offer for purchase;

storing said seller response data in said database;

transmitting to said buyer a seller response received data, said seller response received data identifying contents of the acceptance field of said seller response data;

receiving at said database a committed purchase order data from said buyer; and

changing to a second state the status flag data associated with said particular offer data record.



## **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS**

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

An electronic business posting and negotiated transaction system for offering business products and inventory for sale, receiving offers and counter-offers to buy, and conducting transactions for the same. The system utilizes a web-based relational database which receives, qualifies, and stores postings of business products, and receives, qualifies and responds to search queries for postings. The system receives, qualifies and transmits offers for purchase to sellers, transmits counter-offers, and maintains a searchable record of the communications and of the status of the posted goods.



March 30, 2001

**Certified Mail**

Mr. Brandon Curiel  
9234 Town Walk Drive  
Hamden, CT 06518

**Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS  
Application Serial No.: 09/765,039**

Dear Mr. Curiel:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

Pursuant to the terms of the Assignment that you executed in March 2000, please sign the enclosed Declaration in the space identified as **Inventor's Signature**, located directly beneath your name. If your address has changed, please note any changes on a separate sheet of paper, not on the Declaration itself.

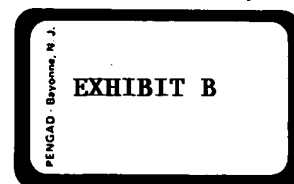
I would appreciate your returning the executed Declaration to my attention no later than April 10. A self-addressed stamped envelope is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached directly at (203) 388-3526.

Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti  
General Counsel

Enclosure



March 30, 2001

**Certified Mail**

Ms. Janice D. Denson  
1045 Mason Street  
Unit 202  
San Francisco, CA 94108

**Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS  
Application Serial No.: 09/765,039**

Dear Jan:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti  
General Counsel

Enclosure

March 30, 2001

**Certified Mail**

Mr. Bernard J. Lidestri  
165 Henry Street  
Manchester, MA 06040

**Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS  
Application Serial No.: 09/765,039**

Dear Bernie:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti  
General Counsel

Enclosure

March 30, 2001

**Certified Mail**

Mr. Gregory Manoni  
300 Cold Spring Road  
Apartment C409  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

**Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS  
Application Serial No.: 09/765,039**

Dear Mr. Manoni:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached directly at (203) 388-3526.

Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti  
General Counsel

Enclosure

March 30, 2001

**Certified Mail**

Mr. Jerry Ahart  
2752 Hollymead Drive  
Charlottesville, VA 22911

**Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS  
Application Serial No.: 09/765,039**

Dear Mr. Ahart:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti  
General Counsel

Enclosure

March 30, 2001

**Certified Mail**

Mr. Michael James Caughey  
6419 Hackney Circle  
Richmond, VA 23234

**Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS  
Application Serial No.: 09/765,039**

Dear Mr. Caughey:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti  
General Counsel

Enclosure



March 30, 2001

**Certified Mail**

Ms. Tamara Petroff  
2111 S. Gaffey Street  
Apartment 3  
San Pedro, CA 90731

**Re: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS  
Application Serial No.: 09/765,039**

Dear Ms. Petroff:

As you may recall, on January 14, 2000 iSolve filed a provisional patent application entitled Managing Computer-Based Commercial Transactions. As a follow up to this provisional application, we recently filed the above-referenced utility patent application, a copy of which is attached. To perfect this filing, we are required to submit the attached Declaration, signed by the inventors.

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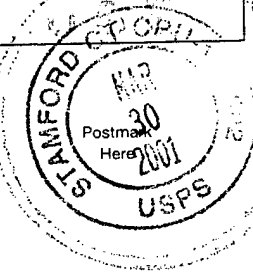
Very truly yours,

Dorene E. Robotti  
General Counsel

Enclosure

**U.S. Postal Service**  
**CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT**  
 (Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

Postage	\$ 1.39
Certified Fee	1.90
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	1.50
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
<b>Total Postage &amp; Fees</b>	<b>\$ 4.79</b>



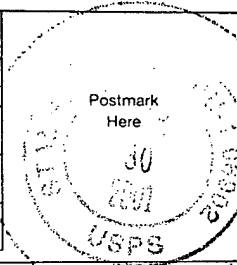
Sent To Jerry Hart  
 Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No. 2552 Hollymead Dr.  
 City, State, ZIP+4 Charlottesville VA 22911

PS Form 3800, May 2000 See Reverse for Instructions

1999 0455 5340 1999

**U.S. Postal Service**  
**CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT**  
 (Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

Postage	\$ 1.39
Certified Fee	1.90
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	1.50
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
<b>Total Postage &amp; Fees</b>	<b>\$ 4.79</b>



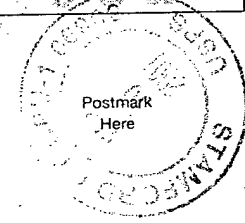
Sent To GREGORY MANNONI  
 Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No. 335 Spring Rd C409  
 City, State, ZIP+4 Rocky Hill CT 06061

PS Form 3800, May 2000 See Reverse for Instructions

2002 0455 1000 1670 0001

**U.S. Postal Service**  
**CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT**  
 (Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

Postage	\$ 1.39
Certified Fee	1.90
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	1.50
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
<b>Total Postage &amp; Fees</b>	<b>\$ 4.79</b>



Sent To Michael Caughey  
 Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No. 6019 N. Cherry Circle  
 City, State, ZIP+4 Richmond VA 23234

PS Form 3800, May 2000 See Reverse for Instructions

1982 0455 5340 1982

**U.S. Postal Service**  
**CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT**  
 (Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

Postage	\$ 1.39
Certified Fee	1.90
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	1.50
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
<b>Total Postage &amp; Fees</b>	<b>\$ 4.79</b>



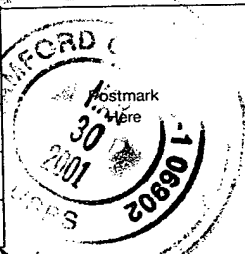
Sent To JANICE Denson  
 Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No. 1545 Mason St Unit 202  
 City, State, ZIP+4 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94118

PS Form 3800, May 2000 See Reverse for Instructions

2002 0455 1000 1670 0001

**U.S. Postal Service**  
**CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT**  
 (Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

Postage	\$ 1.39
Certified Fee	1.90
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	1.50
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
<b>Total Postage &amp; Fees</b>	<b>\$ 4.79</b>



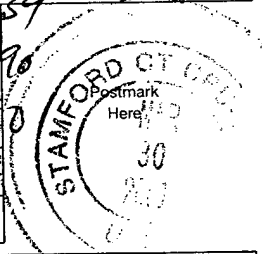
Sent To Tamara Petrus  
 Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No. 21115 Gaffney St Apt 3  
 City, State, ZIP+4 SAN LEAN CA 90731

PS Form 3800, May 2000 See Reverse for Instructions

2019 0455 5340 2019

**U.S. Postal Service**  
**CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT**  
 (Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

Postage	\$ 1.39
Certified Fee	1.90
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	1.50
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
<b>Total Postage &amp; Fees</b>	<b>\$ 4.79</b>



Sent To Bernard Lidevsky  
 Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No. 165 B Henry St  
 City, State, ZIP+4 MANCHESTER NH 06040

PS Form 3800, May 2000 See Reverse for Instructions

2026 0455 1000 1670 0001

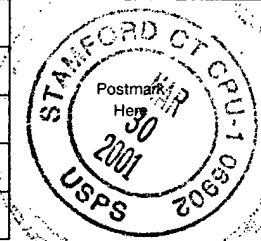
U.S. Postal Service

**CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT**

(Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

OFFICIAL USE

Postage	\$ 1.39
Certified Fee	1.40
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	1.50
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
<b>Total Postage &amp; Fees</b>	<b>\$ 4.79</b>



Sent To: Braxton Currit  
 Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No. 4234 Town Walk Dr.  
 City, State, ZIP+4 Noraden CT 06118

PS Form 3800, May 2000

See Reverse for Instructions

U.S. Postal Service

**CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT**

(Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

OFFICIAL USE

Postage	\$ 1.39
Certified Fee	1.90
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	1.50
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)	
<b>Total Postage &amp; Fees</b>	<b>\$ 4.79</b>

UNIT ID: 0904

Postmark  
Here

Clerk: KG2KMY

04/17/01

Sent To: Jeely Short  
 Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No. 220 A Shamrock Rd.  
 City, State, ZIP+4 Charlottesville, VA 22903

PS Form 3800, May 2000

See Reverse for Instructions

2. Article Number (Copy from service label)  
1000670 0001 5340 1982

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION		COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY	
<p>■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.</p> <p>■ Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.</p> <p>■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.</p> <p>Article Addressed to:</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin-top: 20px;">Durand &amp; Coletta 165 Henry St Mandeville, MA 02640</p>		<p>A. Received by (Please Print Clearly) _____ B. Date of Delivery <u>4/10/01</u></p>	
<p>3. Service Type</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail      <input type="checkbox"/> Express Mail</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Registered      <input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt for Merchandise</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail      <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C.O.D.</p>		<p>C. Signature <u>R. Durand</u>      <input type="checkbox"/> Agent</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Addressee</p>	
<p>4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee)      <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>		<p>D. Is delivery address different from item 1?      <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>    If YES, enter delivery address below:      <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	
<p>2. Article Number (Copy from service label) <u>7000 16700007 5340 2026</u></p>			
<p>PS Form 3811, July 1999      Domestic Return Receipt</p>		<p>102595-00-M-0952</p>	

# isolve.com

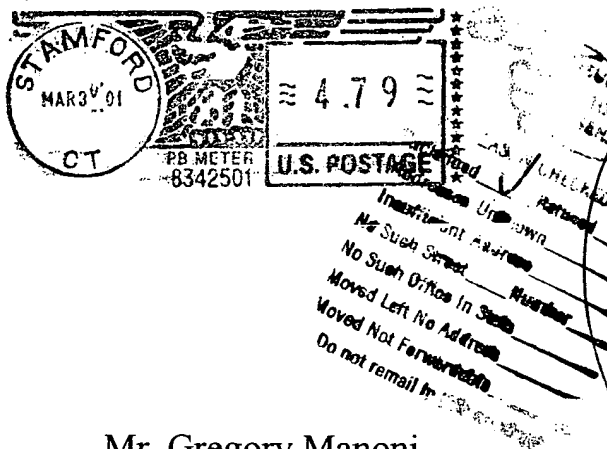
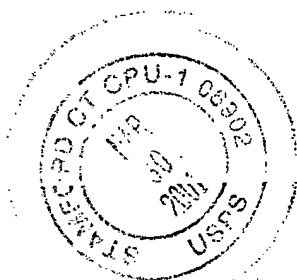
iSolve Incorporated  
2 Stamford Plaza  
281 Tresser Boulevard  
Stamford, CT 06901

PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE  
TO THE RIGHT OF RETURN ADDRESS.  
FOLD AT DOTTED LINE

**CERTIFIED MAIL**



7000 1670 0001 5340 2033



Mr. Gregory Manoni  
300 Cold Spring Road  
Apartment C409  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

**SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION**

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

*Mr. Gregory Manoni  
300 Cold Spring Rd.  
Hpt. C409  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067*

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY**

A. Received by (Please Print Clearly) B. Date of Delivery

C. Signature ☐ Agent ☐ Addressee

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
If YES, enter delivery address below:

3. Service Type

- ☒ Certified Mail ☐ Express Mail  
☐ Registered ☒ Return Receipt for Merchandise  
☐ Insured Mail ☐ C.O.D.

4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) ☐ Yes

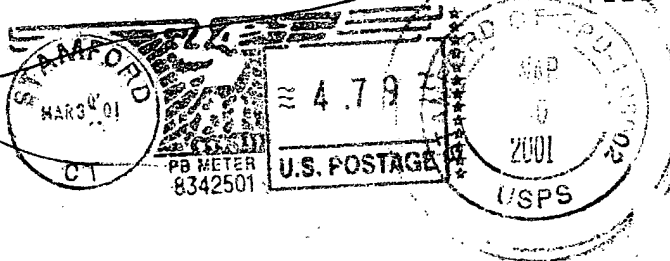
2. Article Number (Copy from service label)  
7000 1670 0001 5340 2033

PS Form 3811, July 1999 Domestic Return Receipt

102595-00-M-0952

# iSolve.com<sup>SM</sup>

iSolve Incorporated  
2 Stamford Plaza  
281 Tresser Boulevard  
Stamford, CT 06901



PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE  
TO THE RIGHT OF RETURN ADDRESS.  
FOLD AT DOTTED LINE

**CERTIFIED MAIL**



7000 1670 0001 5340 2019

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY**

A. Received by (Please Print Clearly) B. Date of Delivery

C. Signature ☒ Agent ☐ Addressee

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If YES, enter delivery address below:

Service Type  
☐ Certified Mail ☐ Express Mail  
☐ Registered ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise  
☐ Insured Mail ☐ Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) ☐ Yes

102595-00-M-0952

Domestic Return Receipt

2. Article Number (Copy from service label)

PS Form 3811, July 1999

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- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

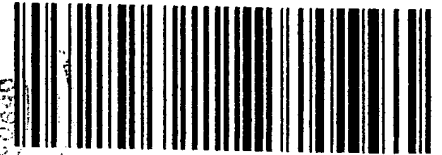
1. Article Addressed to:

*Ms. Tamara Pet  
2111 S. Gaffey St.  
San Pedro, CA 90731*

Ms. Tamara Pet  
2111 S. Gaffey  
Apartment 3  
San Pedro, CA

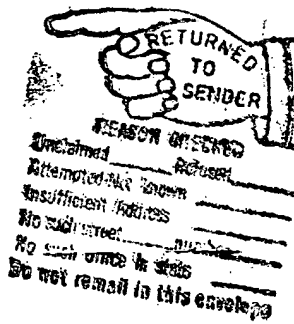
PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE  
TO THE RIGHT OF RETURN ADDRESS.  
FOLD AT DOTTED LINE

**CERTIFIED MAIL**



7000 1670 0001 5340 1999

iSolve Incorporated  
2 Stamford Plaza  
281 Tresser Boulevard  
Stamford, CT 06901



**SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION**

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

Mr. Jerry Ahart  
2752 Hollymead Dr  
Charlottesville, VA  
22911

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY**

A. Received by (Please Print Clearly) B. Date of Delivery

C. Signature

X

☐ Agent  
☐ Addressee

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes  
If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No

3. Service Type

☒ Certified Mail ☐ Express Mail  
☐ Registered ☒ Return Receipt for Merchandise  
☐ Insured Mail ☐ C.O.D.

4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) ☐ Yes

2. Article Number (Copy from service label)  
7000 1670 0001 5340 1999

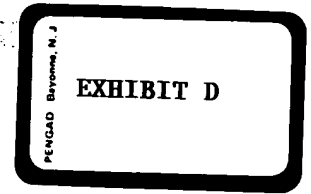
PS Form 3811, July 1999 Domestic Return Receipt

102595-00-M-0952

Mr. Jerry Ahart  
2752 Hollymead D  
Charlottesville, VA



**Donna Condon**  
**From:** Petroff, Tamara [tamara.petroff@tallan.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 14, 2001 6:07 PM  
**To:** dcondon@isolve.com  
**Subject:** RE: Almost Famous



Hi Donna!

My current home address is:

74 Wood Pond Road  
Glastonbury, CT 06033

However, if it's possible to send to another address, I am on assignment at the following address:

Sygnus Court  
Market Street  
Maidenhead  
Berkshire SL6 8AD  
UK

It would be easier if you could send it to me in the UK.

Thanks,  
Tamara

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Lidestri, Bernie [mailto:bernie.lidestri@tallan.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2001 5:01 PM  
**To:** Manoni, Greg; Petroff, Tamara; Caughey, Michael; Ahart, Jerry  
**Cc:** 'Donna Condon'; Bourdon, Pete; 'Demetroulakos, Bibi'; Rivard, Doug  
**Subject:** Almost Famous  
**Importance:** High

Hello to all!

Believe it or not the iSolve provisional patent application that was filed last year has gone to the next step. iSolve has filed a utility patent application which needs our signatures. A package of information is being sent to your homes. Please send Donna Condon (see Cc above) your current home address so that she can get packages sent to each of you.

**DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING YET.**

I need to get a copy to our legal counsel first. I'll get back to you once I hear back from legal.

Hope all is well.

...Bernie



**Donna Condon**

**From:** Ahart, Jerry [jerry.ahart@tallan.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2001 12:35 PM  
**To:** DCondon@iSolve.com  
**Subject:** FW: Almost Famous

**Importance:** High

Donna,

In regards to sending the package to me, my mailing address is:

Jerry Ahart  
PO Box 7079  
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Thanks,

--jerry

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Lidestri, Bernie [<mailto:bernie.lidestri@tallan.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2001 12:01 PM  
**To:** Manoni, Greg; Petroff, Tamara; Caughey, Michael; Ahart, Jerry  
**Cc:** 'Donna Condon'; Bourdon, Pete; 'Demetroulakos, Bibi'; Rivard, Doug  
**Subject:** Almost Famous  
**Importance:** High

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DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING YET.

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Hope all is well.

...Bernie

# FedEx International Air Waybill

For all international shipments

Enclosure

General Counsel

**1 From** Please print and press hard.

Sender's Name Patent Sender's FedEx Account Number 2456-4531-6

Sender's Name Dorene Robbitt Phone 203 388-3500

Company ISOLVE

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**201 TRESSER BLVD**

**STANFORD CT US Postal Code 06901**

**2 Your Internal Billing Reference** Patent **OPTIONAL**

**3 To**

Recipient's Name Tamara Petroff Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Company eloTollan

Address Sygnus Court Day/Room \_\_\_\_\_

Market Street

City Maidenhead State Berkshire

Country England ZIP SL68AD

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Recipient's Tax ID number for Customs purposes \_\_\_\_\_

**4 Shipment Information**

**Total Packages** 1 ☐ For EU duty, tick here if goods are not in the circulation and provide C.I. ☐ **Total Weight** 1 ☒ **kg** ☐ **lb** ☐ **oz** ☐ **in** ☐ **cm**

Commodity Description Business Materials Harmonized Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country of Manufacture \_\_\_\_\_ Value for Customs \_\_\_\_\_

For U.S. Export duty: Check One ☐ No SCD required, value \$500 or less per Schedule B Commodity number ☐ Total Declared Value \_\_\_\_\_

☐ SCD required (provide export license no. and exp. date or license exception symbol, where applicable)



Not all services and options are available to all destinations.

## 5 Express Package Service

☒ FedEx Int'l Priority

☐ FedEx Int'l First  
Available to select locations  
Higher rates apply.

☐ FedEx Int'l Economy

☐ FedEx Int'l Economy  
FedEx EnviroNet, and  
FedEx Pak tags not available.

## 6 Packaging

☒ FedEx Envelope/Pak

☐ Other Pkg.  
Includes FedEx Box, Medium, and  
Custom Pkg.

## 7 Special Handling

☐ HOLD at FedEx location

☐ SATURDAY Delivery  
Available to select locations

☒ Shipper must check/tick:  
This shipment does not contain Dangerous Goods.

☐ Dangerous Goods cannot be shipped using this Air Waybill.

## 8a Payment Bill transportation charges to:

☒ Sender, Acct. No. in Section 1 will be billed.

☐ Recipient ☐ Third Party ☐ Credit Card ☐ Cash

☐ Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

## 8b Payment Bill duties and taxes to:

☒ Sender, Acct. No. in Section 1 will be billed.

☐ Recipient ☐ Third Party ☐ Credit Card ☐ Cash

FedEx Acct. No. \_\_\_\_\_

## 9 Required Signature

Use of this Air Waybill constitutes your agreement to the Conditions of Contract on the back of this Air Waybill, and you represent that this shipment does not require a U.S. State Department License. Certain international treaties, including the Warsaw Convention, may apply to this shipment and limit our liability for damage, loss, or delay, as described in the Conditions of Contract. We warrant that our equipment, technology, or software were exported from the United States in accordance with Export Administration Regulations. Diversion contrary to U.S. law prohibited.

Sender's Signature Dorene Robbitt Date 4-17-01

This is not authorization to deliver this shipment without a recipient signature.

For Completion Instructions, see back of fifth page.

FedEx Tracking Number

8265 8255 9571

Form I.D. No.

0402

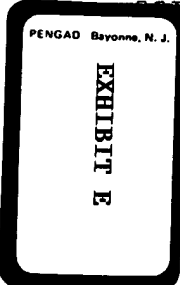
## Questions?

In the U.S., call (800)247-4747

Outside the U.S., call your local FedEx office or

Visit our Web site at [www.fedex.com](http://www.fedex.com)

The terms and conditions of service may vary from country to country. Consult our local office for specific information. Non-Negotiable International Air Waybill. ©1994-99 Federal Express Corporation.



**381**

PART 1537/48K, Data 7/99  
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06500

**SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION**

- ☒ Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.
- ☒ Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- ☒ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

Jersey Ahart  
220 A Shamrock Rd.  
Charlottesville VA  
22903

**COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY**

A. Received by (Please Print Clearly)

B. Date of Delivery

4/26/01

C. Signature

*[Signature]*

☐ Agent  
☐ Addressee

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes  
If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No

3. Service Type

- ☒ Certified Mail
- ☐ Express Mail
- ☐ Registered
- ☒ Return Receipt for Merchandise
- ☐ Insured Mail
- ☐ C.O.D.

4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) ☐ Yes

2. Article Number (Copy from service label)

7000 1670 0001 5346 1896

PS Form 3811, July 1999

Domestic Return Receipt

102505-00-M-0952



**Donna Condon**

**From:** Lidestri, Bernie [bernie.lidestri@tallan.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2001 12:01 PM  
**To:** Manoni, Greg; Petroff, Tamara; Caughey, Michael; Ahart, Jerry  
**Cc:** 'Donna Condon'; Bourdon, Pete; 'Demetroulakos, Bibi'; Rivard, Doug  
**Subject:** Almost Famous

**Importance:** High

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DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING YET.

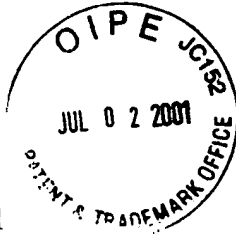
I need to get a copy to our legal counsel first. I'll get back to you once I hear back from legal.

Hope all is well.

...Bernie



**PATTON BOGGS LLP**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



June 5, 2001

2550 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20037-1350  
202-457-6000

Facsimile 202-457-6315  
www.pattonboggs.com

Laurence E. Stein  
202-457-6491  
lstein@pattonboggs.com

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Ms. Janice D. Denson  
1045 Mason Street, Unit 202  
San Francisco, CA 94108

**EXHIBIT H**

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039  
Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"  
Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Ms. Denson:

I am writing on behalf of iSolve Incorporated. On March 30, 2001, Ms. Dorene E. Robotti (General Counsel for iSolve Incorporated) mailed a letter to you which enclosed a Declaration for you to sign as one of the named inventors in the above-identified patent application. iSolve filed this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on January 19, 2001. The application is based on and claims inventions described in Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127, which was filed by iSolve on January 14, 2000, and which names you as one of the joint inventors. I have been informed by iSolve that you were an employee at the time of your contribution to the invention described in the Provisional Application and now claimed in the above-identified utility application, and that you executed an assignment of all inventions described in the Provisional. I enclose with this letter a copy of an assignment appearing to have been executed by you on March 28, 2000.

The regulations governing examination of applications by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) require your signature on the enclosed Declaration, which states that you are one of the joint inventors. iSolve therefore asks that you sign and return the enclosed Declaration to me so that I can file it in the USPTO. For your convenience I have enclosed a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Your cooperation in signing the Declaration would be appreciated. If you do not sign the Declaration and return it to me, iSolve will have to use a provision of the USPTO's rules allowing a filing without all of the signatures. iSolve, however, would prefer not to use this means for filing, because it is a significant and unnecessary expenditure of time and effort that could be avoided by your signing and returning the enclosed Declaration. Further regarding such an

June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein  
202-457-6491  
[lstein@pattonboggs.com](mailto:lstein@pattonboggs.com)

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mr. Bernard J. Lidestri  
165 Henry Street  
Manchester, MA 06040

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039  
Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"  
Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Mr. Lidestri:

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June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein  
202-457-6491  
[lstein@pattonboggs.com](mailto:lstein@pattonboggs.com)

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mr. Gregory D. Manoni  
300 Cold Spring Road, Apt. C409  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039  
Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
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Our Reference No. 12913.101

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June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein  
202-457-6491  
[lstein@pattonboggs.com](mailto:lstein@pattonboggs.com)

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mr. Jerry Ahart  
220 A Shamrock Road  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039  
Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"  
Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Mr. Ahart:

I am writing on behalf of iSolve Incorporated. On March 30, 2001, Ms. Dorene E. Robotti (General Counsel for iSolve Incorporated) mailed a letter to you which enclosed a Declaration for you to sign as one of the named inventors in the above-identified patent application. iSolve filed this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on January 19, 2001. The application is based on and claims inventions described in Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127, which was filed by iSolve on January 14, 2000, and which names you as one of the joint inventors. I have been informed by iSolve that you were an employee at the time of your contribution to the invention described in the Provisional Application and now claimed in the above-identified utility application, and that you executed an assignment of all inventions described in the Provisional. I enclose with this letter a copy of an assignment appearing to have been executed by you on March 28, 2000.

The regulations governing examination of applications by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) require your signature on the enclosed Declaration, which states that you are one of the joint inventors. iSolve therefore asks that you sign and return the enclosed Declaration to me so that I can file it in the USPTO. For your convenience I have enclosed a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Your cooperation in signing the Declaration would be appreciated. If you do not sign the Declaration and return it to me, iSolve will have to use a provision of the USPTO's rules allowing a filing without all of the signatures. iSolve, however, would prefer not to use this means for filing, because it is a significant and unnecessary expenditure of time and effort that could be avoided by your signing and returning the enclosed Declaration. Further regarding such an



June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein  
202-457-6491  
[lstein@pattonboggs.com](mailto:lstein@pattonboggs.com)

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mr. Michael J. Caughey  
6419 Hackney Circle  
Richmond, VA 23234

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039  
Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"  
Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Mr. Caughey:

I am writing on behalf of iSolve Incorporated. On March 30, 2001, Ms. Dorene E. Robotti (General Counsel for iSolve Incorporated) mailed a letter to you which enclosed a Declaration for you to sign as one of the named inventors in the above-identified patent application. iSolve filed this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on January 19, 2001. The application is based on and claims inventions described in Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127, which was filed by iSolve on January 14, 2000, and which names you as one of the joint inventors. I have been informed by iSolve that you were an employee at the time of your contribution to the invention described in the Provisional Application and now claimed in the above-identified utility application, and that you executed an assignment of all inventions described in the Provisional. I enclose with this letter a copy of an assignment appearing to have been executed by you on March 28, 2000.

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June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein  
202-457-6491  
[lstein@pattonboggs.com](mailto:lstein@pattonboggs.com)

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Ms. Tamara O. Petroff  
74 Wood Pond Road  
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039  
Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"  
Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Ms. Petroff:

I am writing on behalf of iSolve Incorporated. On March 30, 2001, Ms. Dorene E. Robotti (General Counsel for iSolve Incorporated) mailed a letter to you which enclosed a Declaration for you to sign as one of the named inventors in the above-identified patent application. iSolve filed this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on January 19, 2001. The application is based on and claims inventions described in Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127, which was filed by iSolve on January 14, 2000, and which names you as one of the joint inventors. I have been informed by iSolve that you were an employee at the time of your contribution to the invention described in the Provisional Application and now claimed in the above-identified utility application, and that you executed an assignment of all inventions described in the Provisional. I enclose with this letter a copy of an assignment appearing to have been executed by you on March 28, 2000.

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June 5, 2001

Laurence E. Stein  
202-457-6491  
[lstein@pattonboggs.com](mailto:lstein@pattonboggs.com)

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Mr. Brandon Curiel  
427 Boston Street  
Guilford, CT 06437

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/765,039  
Entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRONIC BUSINESS  
POSTINGS AND NEGOTIATED TRANSACTIONS"  
Our Reference No. 12913.101

Dear Mr. Curiel:

I am writing on behalf of iSolve Incorporated. On March 30, 2001, Ms. Dorene E. Robotti (General Counsel for iSolve Incorporated) mailed a letter to you which enclosed a Declaration for you to sign as one of the named inventors in the above-identified patent application. iSolve filed this application in the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on January 19, 2001. The application is based on and claims inventions described in Provisional Application Serial No. 60/176,127, which was filed by iSolve on January 14, 2000, and which names you as one of the joint inventors. I have been informed by iSolve that you were an employee at the time of your contribution to the invention described in the Provisional Application and now claimed in the above-identified utility application, and that you executed an assignment of all inventions described in the Provisional. I enclose with this letter a copy of an assignment appearing to have been executed by you on March 28, 2000.

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EXHIBIT J

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

+

PTO/SB/02A (11-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

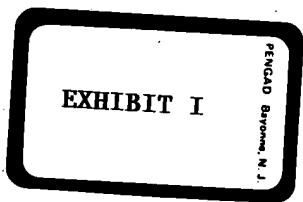
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

## DECLARATION

ADDITIONAL INVENTOR(S)  
Supplemental Sheet  
Page 3 of 3

Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname	
Michael James		Caughey	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence: City	Richmond	State	VA
		Country	US
Citizenship US			
Mailing Address 6419 Hackney Circle			
Mailing Address			
City	Richmond	State	VA
		ZIP	23234
		Country	US
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname	
Tamara Olga		Petroff	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence: City	Glastonbury	State	CT
		Country	US
Citizenship US			
Mailing Address 74 Wood Pond Road			
Mailing Address			
City	Glastonbury	State	CT
		ZIP	06033
		Country	US
Name of Additional Joint Inventor, if any:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname	
Brandon		Curiel	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Residence: City	Guilford	State	CT
		Country	US
Citizenship US			
Mailing Address 427 Boston Street			
Mailing Address			
City	Guilford	State	CT
		ZIP	06437
		Country	US

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



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- Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.
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1. Article Addressed to:

MR. BERNARD J. CIDESTRI

145 HENDERSON RD  
NORTH GREEN BAY, CT  
06060-1400

2. Article Number (Copy from service label)

7000 1670 0000 0801 5177

PS Form 3811, July 1999

Domestic Return Receipt

102595-00-M-0932

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7/16/01

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1. Article Addressed to:

MR. JERRY AARST

2204 SHAMROCK RD  
CHARLOTTEVILLE, VA  
22903

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

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7/16/01

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1. Article Addressed to:

MRS JANICE D. DENSON  
1045 MASON ST. #202  
SAN FRANCISCO CA  
94108

2. Article

PS Form

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SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

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- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

MR. BRANDON DUKIEL  
427 BOSTON ST.  
BURLINGTON, CT 06437

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

- A. Received by (Please Print Clearly) B. Date of Delivery
- C. Signature
- D. Is delivery address different from item 1? If YES, enter delivery address below:

7/16/01

2. Article Number (Copy from service label)  
7600 1670 0000 0801 5447

PS Form 3811, July 1999

Domestic Return Receipt

102595-00-M-0932

Form with fields for delivery information, including signature, date, and address. Includes a circular postmark from OIPE JC152, dated JUL 02 2001, with text PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE.

**PATTON BOGGS LLP**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
2550 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20037-1350

*Handwritten signature*

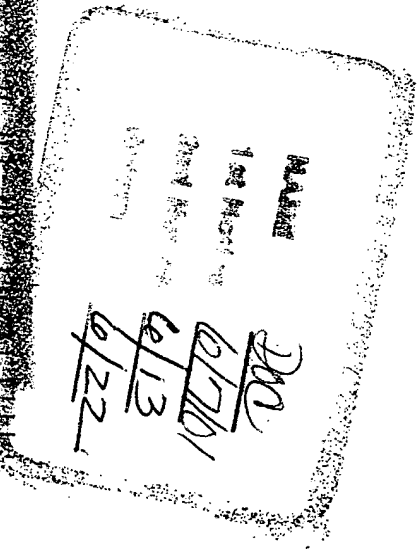
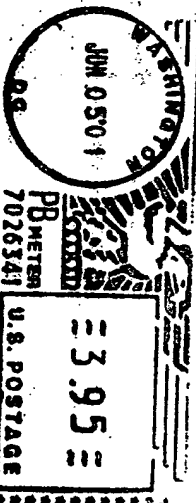
**CERTIFIED MAIL**

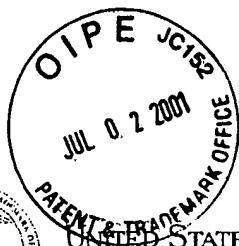


7000 1670 0000 0801 5531

~~Ms. Tamara O. Petroff  
74 Wood Pond Road  
Glastonbury, CT 06033~~

06033-3702 01





UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Page 1 of 2  
COMPUTER UPDATED  
BY *CCA* DATE *3/7/01*

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/765,039	01/19/2001	Denson	999999.120

CONFIRMATION NO. 6916

FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC00000005819273\*

PATTON BOGGS LLP  
2550 M STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20037

Date Mailed: 03/02/2001

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

*Filing Date Granted*

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The oath or declaration is missing.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$65 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 65.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- A substitute specification in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52 because:
  - Papers contain improper margins. *Each sheet must have a left margin of at least 2.5 cm (1") and top, bottom and right margins of at least 2.0 cm (3/4")*

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

*BLS*